

FEB 225

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Austria

SUBJECT Activities of Hanf-, Jute-
und Textilit-Industrie, A.G., ViennaPLACE ACQUIRED 25X1C
25X1A

DATE OF INFO [REDACTED] CIA Library

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DATE DISTR. 21 June 1948

NO. OF PAGES

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1A
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

25X1X 1. The first quarter of 1948 showed a turnover of 24,000,000 schillings, as compared with the 19,000,000-schilling turnover during the same period in 1947. Production figures have therefore increased accordingly over those quoted [REDACTED] 25X1A

2. The production of mixed paper and jute bags will be discontinued. Jute supplies have been procured in India through Dutch dealers; a credit of 100,000 pounds has been established, and negotiations are proceeding for an additional credit of 150,000 pounds.

3. On 16 May 1948, Hanf-, Jute- und Textilit-Industrie AG concluded an agreement with USIA in Vienna for the purchase of 5,000 cubic meters of timber for cellulose to be delivered from the forestry administration (Forstdirektion) in Allentsteig. In 1947, timber of this same quality was selling for export at 250 schillings per cubic meter, but now the official price for this timber has been established at 85 schillings per cubic meter. However, on the basis of a clandestine agreement, Hanf-, Jute- und Textilit-Industrie AG will actually pay 122 schillings per cubic meter, and the difference will be divided among the various Russian officials, who have been complaining that their incomes have recently suffered severe cuts. The 37-schilling difference is to be handled by the company's representative, who will transfer it to the Russian interpreter for further distribution.

4. Attempts by Hanf-, Jute- u. Textilit Industrie, A.G. to export to countries in the Russian orbit have so far been unsuccessful, since Russia has sufficient quantities of Indian jute on hand to meet the needs of these countries.

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Document No. 08
NO CHANGE IN CLASS.
 DECLASSIFIED
Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C
DIA Ref. 147
Auth: DIA REC. 7/1948
Date: 28/01/78 Pg: 029

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